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PR06:039 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: May 15, 2006

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Westly Issues Statement on Bush Border Plan

SACRAMENTO – State Controller Steve Westly made the following statement in response to President Bush's address on immigration:

"I support more enforcement to secure our borders, consistent with my support of the Kennedy-McCain bill.

"Militarizing the border is the wrong approach. President Bush's plan is a political response to dissention within the Republican Party.

"California is constantly threatened by wildfires, earthquakes, levee breaches and other natural disasters. Our National Guard is already stretched thin because of the war in Iraq. Our troops cannot be stretched any further.

"Gov. Schwarzenegger must stand up as commander in chief of our National Guard to ensure California is not left vulnerable because President Bush is playing politics with our troops."